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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. [NL/NL]; Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

(72) Inventors and  
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BRULS, Wilhelmus, H., A. [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). VERVOORT, Gerard, J., M. [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). KLEIN GUNNEWIEK, Reinier, B., M. [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). OP DE BEECK,

(74) Agent: GROENENDAAL, Antonius, W., M.; Philips Intellectual Property & Standards, Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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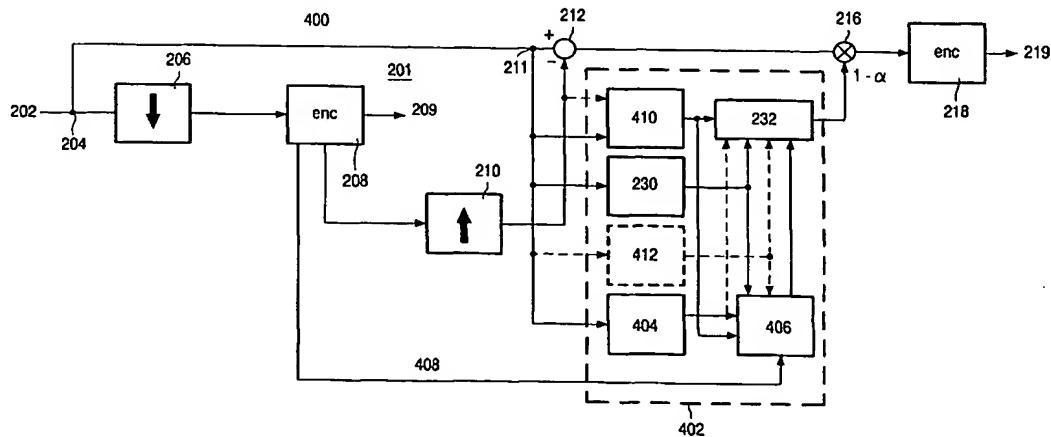
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SPATIAL SCALABLE COMPRESSION



(57) **Abstract:** A method and apparatus for providing spatial scalable compression of a video stream is disclosed. The video stream is downsampled to reduce the resolution of the video stream. The downsampled video stream is encoded to produce a base stream. The base stream is decoded and upconverted to produce a reconstructed video stream. The reconstructed video stream is subtracted from the video stream to produce a residual stream. It is then determined which segments or pixels in each frame have a predetermined chance of having a predetermined characteristic. A gain value for the content of each segment or pixel is calculated, wherein the gain for pixels which have the predetermined chance of having the predetermined characteristic is biased toward 1 and the gain for other pixels is biased toward 0. The residual stream is multiplied by the gain values so as to remove bits from the residual stream which do not correspond to the predetermined characteristic. The resulting residual stream is encoded and outputted as an enhancement stream.

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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

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## Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Marie-Julie, J-M

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